

OPINION 1200  
*GENYPTERUS* PHILIPPI, 1857 (PISCES, OPHIDIIDAE):  
CONSERVED

RULING.—(1) Under the plenary powers, the generic name *Xiphurus* Smith, 1847, is hereby suppressed for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy;

(2) The generic name *Genypterus* Philippi, 1857 (gender: masculine), type species, by monotypy, *Genypterus nigricans* Philippi, 1857, is hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology with the Name Number 2142;

(3) The specific name *chilensis* Guichenot, 1849, as published in the binomen *Conger chilensis* (the valid name, at the time of this ruling, for the type species of *Genypterus* Philippi, 1857) is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology with the Name Number 2778;

(4) The generic name *Xiphurus* Smith, 1847, as suppressed under the plenary powers in (1) above, is hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology with the Name Number 2122.

HISTORY OF THE CASE Z.N.(S.)2126

An application for the conservation of the generic name *Genypterus* Philippi, 1857, was first received from Dr. C.R. Robins and Dr. R.N. Lea (*University of Miami*) on 29 May 1975. It was sent to the printer on 9 June 1976 and published on 30 September 1976 in *Bull. zool. Nom.* vol. 33, pp. 90–92. Public notice of the possible use of the plenary powers in the case was given in the same part of the *Bulletin* as well as to the statutory serials, to nine general serials and one ichthyological serial. No comments were received.

DECISION OF THE COMMISSION

On 24 November 1980 the members of the Commission were invited to vote under the Three-Month Rule on Voting Paper (1980)37 for or against the proposals set out in *Bull. zool. Nom.* vol. 33, pp. 91–92. At the close of the voting period on 24 February 1981 the state of the voting was as follows:

Affirmative Votes — twenty-two (22) received in the following order: Melville, Holthuis, Brinck, Willink, Mroczkowski, Trjapitzin, Alvarado, Starobogatov, Heppell, Habe, Corliss, Hahn, Welch, Tortonese, Ride, Lehtinen, Cogger, Binder, Bayer, Bernardi, Nye, Sabrosky

Negative Vote — Dupuis

Vokes and Halvorsen were on leave of absence. No voting paper was returned by Kraus.

Bayer commented: 'Vote contingent upon conditional suppression. As *Genypterus* is a junior subjective synonym of *Xiphurus*, the former should be given nomenclatural precedence by anyone who considers the two names synonymous. As the applicants state that *Genypterus* is in need of revision, there is a possibility, however remote, that the type species of the two genera may some day prove not to be congeneric.'

#### ORIGINAL REFERENCES

The following are the original references for the names placed on Official Lists and an Official Index by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

*chilensis*, *Conger*, Guichenot, 1849, in Gay, *Hist. fis. polit. Chile*, *Zoologia* vol. 2, p. 339

*Genypterus* Philippi, 1857, *Arch. Naturges.*, Jahrg. 23(1), p. 268

*Xiphurus* Smith, 1847, *Illustrations of the Zoology of South Africa*, *Pisces*, pl. xxxi.

#### CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the votes cast on V.P.(80)37 were cast as set out above, that the proposal contained in that voting paper has been duly adopted under the plenary powers, and that the decision so taken, being the decision of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, is truly recorded in the present Opinion 1200.

R.V. MELVILLE

*Secretary*

*International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature*

*London*

*10 April 1981*